

Checking in has taken on a whole new meaning over the last 18 months but as borders start to open up to the world, we can return to the check ins we love!

We've launched a new campaign to inspire Aussies to rediscover the world and get excited to finally check in for tours and cruises!

WATCH & SHARE THE VIDEO HERE









# Travel Daily First with the news

www.traveldaily.com.au Monday 15th November 2021

## Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of news plus a full page from Globus family of brands and a full page from Travel Daily about its Still Standing cocktail event.

#### It's time to check in

THE GLOBUS Family of Brands is today showcasing its newly launched campaign (*TD* 10 Nov), aiming to inspire Aussies to rediscover the world via Globus, Cosmos, Avalon Waterways and Monograms brands - see the front page for details.

#### Let AFTA know

**THE** Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) is calling on owners and store managers to help the body build a better picture of how the sector is recovering via a new survey.

The Reopening Survey will canvass responses about business confidence, the number of employees pre-COVID, during JobKeeper, and immediately post-JobKeeper, as well as the nature of new travel bookings.

Take the survey **HERE**.

## Entire goes long

**ENTIRE** Travel Group has announced an extension of its reservation centre operating hours, to support an increase in enquiry due to the opening of international borders.

Effective immediately the Entire res team is available for 10 hours per day, between 8am and 6pm AEDT Mon-Fri.

The specialist wholesaler can be contacted on 02 9094 3322 or via info@entiretravel.com.au.

## \$1.8b JobKeeper for industry

#### EXCLUSIVE

AUSTRALIA'S publicly listed travel, tourism and aviation businesses received almost \$1.8 billion in JobKeeper subsidies, according to a series of ASX announcements last week.

The lion's share - almost 50% of the total - went to Qantas, which received \$856 million in support under the program, on behalf of around 27,000 staff.

Also in the aviation sector, Regional Express received \$29 million for about 900 employees covered under the scheme.

Listed travel companies received a combined \$295 million, with Flight Centre the major recipient, taking in a total of \$248 million for its 9,350-odd employee pool -\$96 million last financial year and a further \$152 million in 2020/21.

## TA Singapore push

**TOURISM** Australia (TA) has launched a new campaign targeting Singaporean tourists, encouraging them to visit under the newly formed quarantine-free travel lane starting 21 Nov.

The "We're Excited to Welcome You Back" push will initially promote regions in NSW, Victoria and the ACT, with Brent Anderson, TA GM South and South-East Asia emphasising the importance of Singapore as a visitor market.

"Australia has long been a popular travel destination for Singaporeans, who spent \$1.53 billion on their travels here in 2019...and has long been the most popular international destination for Singaporean tourists, with over an 80% repeat visitation," Anderson said.

Helloworld Travel Limited received \$33 million in JobKeeper payments, citing around 900 staff with allocations amounted to \$9.6 million in 2019/20 and \$23.2 million this financial year.

Webjet's Jobkeeper funding totalled \$3.9 million, covering about 130 staff, while more than \$10.3 million was received by Corporate Travel Management - \$3.06 million in 2019/20 for 308 staff, and a further \$7.3 million in 2020/21 for 376 staff.

The recently renamed Kelsian Group Limited - previously known as Sealink Travel Group - received about \$21 million in JobKeeper payments for around 960 staff, while \$10.2 million was paid to Experience Co for 340 employees supported by the program.

Other major tourism recipients under the JobKeeper scheme included Crown Resorts, with over \$290 million for 10,400 staff, and rival gaming and hospitality giant Star Entertainment Group which received \$157 million for 7,040 employees.

Theme park operator Ardent Leisure received \$19.8 million in JobKeeper payments, while Event Hospitality received \$89.8 million.

## Donovan calls quits

**DESTINATION** Gold Coast Chairman Paul Donovan has announced he will stand down after 17 years in the role.

Donovan's past roles include Executive General Manager of Queensland Airports from 2014 to 2018, as well as COO of Gold Coast Airport from 2005 to 2014.

A new chair will be elected at the AGM taking place 24 Nov.

## **EK ups Melbourne**

EMIRATES has announced it plans to increase its Melbourne services to a daily frequency from 02 Dec in line with the returning demand for both inbound and outbound travel.

The move will add more than 1,000 seats per week on the Melbourne to Dubai route, and follows the resumption of daily services from Dubai to Sydney earlier this month (*TD* 29 Oct).

Extra Melbourne flights will be serviced by Boeing 777-300ER aircraft, with demand largely driven by travellers from the UK.

## **Duty free returns**

**REMAINING** restrictions on retail outlets at Australia's international airports have been removed, Federal Minister for Health Greg Hunt has confirmed.

The decision was precipitated by the country reaching 80% of Australians over the age of 16 having had the two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

"With this lower risk, and the anticipated resumption of international travel, these retail businesses are once again able to operate, while adhering to COVID safe measures in place in their local jurisdictions," Hunt said.

#### Learn about Nevada

AGENTS can join Travel Nevada online to learn about the state's Lake Tahoe Loop and Burner Byway road trips, with a special webinar taking place tomorrow at 9am AEDT.

Highlights of the state's road trips include stops at ghost towns and hot springs, to name a few. Register to attend **HERE**.

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## Lowest ever departures in Sep

**OUTBOUND** travel from Australia plumbed a new nadir in Sep, with just 30,330 people leaving the country, according to new figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

ABS spokesperson Jenny Dobak attributed the dearth of departures to "continued international travel restrictions, the various lockdowns in Australia, and low numbers of new arrivals".

The cessation of the short-lived two-way travel bubble between Australia and New Zealand was also a key factor, with just 700 departures and less than 500 arrivals of NZ citizens in Sep.

Total arrivals amounted to just 18,840 people, a monthly decrease of 8,140 trips, including 6,020 short-term Australian resident returns and 4,410 short-

#### New EK codeshares

**GARUDA** Indonesia has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Emirates, envisioning a codeshare partnership which will provide seamless connectivity on new routes across the Americas, Middle East, Africa and Europe.

Expected to become effective in Jan, the carriers said they also plan to explore opportunities for cooperation on frequent flyer programs to enable customers to earn and burn loyalty points.

Emirates has also announced a new codeshare deal with Gulf Air, with each carrier's codes to initially be placed on their respective flights operating between Bahrain and Dubai and further opportunities for cooperation also on the table.

term overseas visitor arrivals.

The three leading source countries from which visitors to Australia came were Afghanistan (470 trips), the UK (380 trips) and Vanuatu (360).

The main destination countries from which Australian residents returned were the USA (870 trips), the UK (590 trips) and Japan (500 trips).

The month also saw 120 international student arrivals to Australia, up 30 on the corresponding month in 2020.

Overall Sep 2021 short-term trips were down 99.4% compared to pre-COVID levels in Sep 2019.

#### **NSW** student tick

**THE NSW Government has** announced it will not require incoming international students to quarantine if they are fully vaccinated with a TGA-recognised immunisation.

A charter flight under the **NSW International Student** Arrivals Pilot Plan (TD 21 Sep) is scheduled to land in Sydney on 06 Dec, carrying about 250 students from 15 nations including Indonesia, Singapore, Vietnam, South Korea, China and Canada.

A second flight to bring in students from South Asia and India is also scheduled.

Pre-pandemic there were almost 290,000 students studying in NSW, supporting more than 95,000 full-time jobs.

Students will still require Federal approval to travel to Australia, while Scape Redfern will continue as the accommodation partner supporting international students as they return.



## MTA's life in the fast lane



THE engines were well and truly revving at a recent high-octane Go Kart event in Welshpool. Western Australia, organised by MTA advisor and F1 Experiences authorised sales agent Wendy Brockbank.

Entrants to the race (pictured) were selected from hundreds of F1 fans who registered their interest in the Formula 1 2022 Calendar, with drivers warned that the race had to be "clean" and free of deliberate driving into

#### Rex adds Brisbane

**REX** Airlines has announced it will launch double-daily flights between Melbourne and Brisbane from 17 Dec, with the Qld capital becoming the fifth major city to be added to the carrier's network.

The news coincides with the relaunch of domestic services from Melbourne to Sydney and Canberra this morning, as well as Sydney to Port Macquarie and Sydney to Coffs Harbour flights.

**MEANWHILE** Rex revealed it was in advanced talks to begin flying to major Queensland regional centres, stating it had no intentions of stopping its aggressive growth strategy.

other cars.

The winners were determined based on the fastest laps recorded over two sessions and were heralded with a special podium celebration.

To enquire about F1 Experiences travel packages, contact Brockbank on 0402 848 249.

## Mulpha buys Emma

**MULPHA** Australia has bought Emma's Cottage Vinevard in NSW's Hunter Valley, located near its Bimbadgen Estate winery.

The property features a boutique vineyard and a fully licensed cellar door which can seat up to 40 people, and also boasts a café and kitchen.

Accommodation options includes four two- and fourbedroom cottages.

"While initially we will continue to run the existing business, we see potential to further develop a bespoke offering which will be created and launched in 2022," Mulpha's General Manager of Hospitality Belinda Stapleton said.

Mulpha, which also owns Hayman Island and the Sydney InterContinental Hotel, recently put The Marritz Hotel in Perisher Valley on the market (TD 26 Jul).





## NSW plants tourism seed

A NEW 30,000-hectare eco-tourism and adventure destination between the Blue Mountains and Lithgow will be developed under new plans unveiled by the NSW Government over the weekend.

Tourism activities slated to be included in the \$50 million project will be Australia's longest zipline within the flagged Lost City Adventure Experience, as well as an elevated canyon walk, rock-climbing facilities, upgraded lookouts, new walking trails, a 4WD circuit and a 35km mountain bike network.

NSW Deputy Premier Paul Toole said the plan would be a "massive boost" for Lithgow's local economy, drawing an estimated 200,000 extra visitors to the region every year.

"This investment will deliver an iconic tourism and adventuring experience right on Sydney's doorstep and represents one

of the state's largest ever investments in a regional ecotourism project," Toole said.

"We expect this new set of reserves to create at least another 190 jobs for the Lithgow region, not to mention the millions of tourism dollars that will flow into the local economy."

The new tourism reserve will also feature a long-distance walk extending from the Wollemi to the Gardens of Stone.

## **Qld updates map**

**THE** Queensland Government will reopen its border to some fully vaccinated interstate travellers as the state reaches its 70% double vaccination rate.

Eligible Aussies can apply for a border pass from 5pm today, but will need to arrive by air and have proof of a negative TGA-approved COVID test within the previous 72 hour of arrival.

The first official interview with new AFTA CEO Dean Long, the disunited states of Australia and more in the November issue of *travelBulletin*.

trave**B**ulletin

CLICK to read



## NSW feeling good

**TIMED** to coincide with the restart of intrastate travel and the progressive reopening of state and territory borders, the NSW Government has launched the latest phase of its Feel New tourism campaign in partnership with Destination NSW.

The push targets Aussie travellers looking to embark on trips to experience something new and refresh themselves after months of COVID lockdowns.

"The 'Renew' campaign encapsulates the feeling we all have right now to be re-energised after an incredibly challenging long-haul and with NSW leading the country in opening up, now is time to hit the road and explore NSW and give our visitor economy the kick-start it deserves," the state's Minister for Tourism Stuart Ayres said.

The push will run across radio, digital and social media channels - see **page four** for further information.



## Window Seat

LADIES and gentleman, the King is about to re-enter the building, yes the famous Parkes Elvis Festival is set to return on 20-24 Apr 2022, boasting a jampacked program full of whitesuited, rock'n'rollin' frivolity.

The program will feature over 200 Elvis and speedway inspired events, including much-loved festival favourites Northparkes Mines Street Parade and the Goodsell Machinery Miss Priscilla Dinner - thank you very much, thank you very much.







## Top ideas in the Top End



**COLA** Maurirere, the owner of itravel Darwin was recently at one of SKAL's networking events in Darwin, where attendees enjoyed a lovely luncheon at the Hilton Pepper Berry restaurant.

The Skal events provide people who work in the travel sector an opportunity to network with local tourism, accommodation and hospitality businesses, with the recent event a hit among attendees in Darwin.

**Pictured**: Cola Maurirere with Melanie Lewis from Journey Beyond's Darwin Harbour Cruises.

## **QF** prepares Burnie

QANTAS has confirmed that six weekly Melbourne to Burnie flights will take off on 17 Dec, with special introductory fares leading in at \$129 one-way until 19 Nov.

### The art of tourism

THE Federal Government has launched a new \$5 million Regional Arts Fund Cultural Tourism Accelerator program, designed to support the tourism appeal of regional areas.

"The arts and cultural sector is a key contributor to the prosperity of Australia's regional economy and will play a strong role in bringing tourists back to the regions," Federal Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, Paul Fletcher said.

The government also noted that promoting arts and cultural events across the regions would support jobs and businesses in tourism, hospitality, accommodation - providing a major uplift to regional tourism economies.

## Feel New

Feel new in New South Wales





WHETHER it's sunrise, sunset or any other time of the day, NSW has a unique ability to inspire awe. Your clients can get an endorphin hit simply by being in some of the state's stunning destinations - on the coast, in the cities and towns, or in the countryside.

Some of the best ways to experience a NSW sunrise include an early morning surf lesson in Byron Bay, Blacksmith, Bronte or Bendalong, or doing laps in one of a myriad of ocean pools up and down the coast - perhaps even right in the centre of Sydney at Cremorne Point's Maccallum Pool (below).



But you don't have to be in the water to be inspired - what about a stroll on the Bondi to Bronte Coastal Walk, or Newcastle's Bathers Way Coastal Walk? Or take a jog on Bathurst's Mount Panorama to get an entirely new perspective on the world.

NSW's National Parks, like the Gibraltar Ranges (above) offer a huge variety of vistas to help shake off the everyday.

NSW also offers plenty of ways to be inspired by nature, such as the Aboriginal Cultural Sunset Tour offered by the Royal Botanic Garden in Sydney. Led by a First Nations guide, participants are offered a different perspective on the types of wildlife and nocturnal animals that live in the Gardens - and their deep connection to the Gadigal people.

Just another way to really help you feel new.

Head to visitnsw.com for travel inspiration, itineraries, and ideas on how to #FeelNew in NSW.

Images: ©Destination NSW





## **BROCHURES**

**WELCOME** to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily*'s Monday feature. brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



Nat Geographic and Ponant Expeditions 2022 The new National Geographic & Ponant **Expeditions** brochure is out now, detailing a range of collaborative expedition itineraries departing in 2022 to destinations such as Antarctica, the Arctic, New Zealand & its Subantarctic Islands, Melanesia and the Kimberley and South America. The brochure contains in-depth profiles on the experts who will accompany guests on board its ships, with highlights including a 12-night Revealing The

Mysteries of Melanesia sailing, visiting New Caledonia, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Noumea.



Wilderness Safaris At a Glance

Wilderness Safaris has updated its At a Glance brochure, presenting an overview of camp holidays on offer in Botswana, Namibia, Rwanda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Highlights of the brochure include surrounding nature safaris available in Linyanti Wildlife Reserve and Kalahari Game Reserve game reserves. The Hwange and Mana Pool camps in Zimbabwe are also in the spotlight, with highlights

including cruises down the Zambezi River and walks to spot the many

## Pilot pathways

**SKYTRANS** Airlines, CQ University and Townsville Flight Training have announced a new partnership to address a looming shortage in trained pilots to service a return in travel demand.

Courses will be conducted through CQ University and Townsville Flight Training, providing students with basic theory training that leads all the way to becoming a captain with a major regional airline.

The move follows Skytrans' new Cairns to Whitsunday-Rockhampton route (TD 30 Jul).

## Put Cairns on map

**NON-GOVERNMENT** advocacy group Advance Cairns has called on the Federal Government to allocate funding to attract European airlines to fly directly to the Queensland city.

The group has released a strategy document requesting \$80 million in stimulus for the Cairns Airport, including refurbishing the international terminal and a further \$20 million to attract a major airline to inject direct European tourism.

Int'l tourism accounted for \$1.1bn in spend pre-COVID.

## The nature experts

A **NEW** consultancy operation has launched that will focus on offering advice on the development of mountain bike, walking, running, cycling tourism trails across the country.

TRC Trails, an offshoot of TRC Tourism, will specialise in trail auditing, new and upgraded trail design, construction and maintenance - all with a focus on creating high-quality environmentally sustainable journeys through nature.

The operation will be led by former Perisher Mountain Area Supervisor Lachy Mackay-Wiggins and Tourism Snowy Mountains Chair Janet Mackay, and will seek to leverage the increased popularity in Australia regarding nature-based tourism.

TRC's parent company has previously managed mountain bike tourism projects such as the Red Centre Adventure Ride in the Top End, as well as a range of smaller curated nature walks.

## The ACCC examines

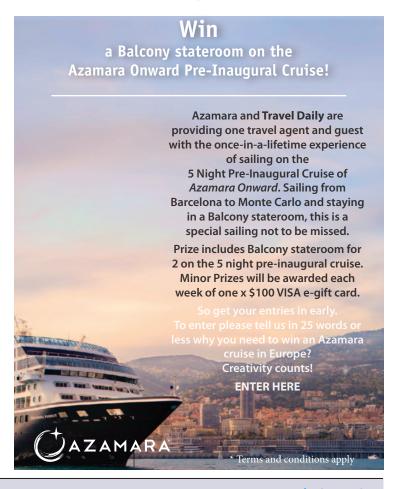
AUSTRALIA'S consumer watchdog is calling on Aussies who have purchased a caravan to participate in a survey about possible consumer law issues.

The ACCC has received more than 1,300 complaints about the caravan industry over the past five years, with the most common gripes relating to retailers selling new caravans that do not meet consumer guarantees, and faults leading to disputes between manufacturers and retailers.

With more Aussies tipped to travel domestically rather than overseas due to the ongoing pandemic, the ACCC foresees complaints may increase as more campervans are purchased for Australian road trips.

"This information will help to inform our future work, including possible enforcement action," the ACCC said.

The consumer survey will remain open until 10 Dec and can be taken HERE.





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